Remarks

Claims 1-17 are pending in the application. Claims 1-12 and 15-17 are rejected. Claims 13 and 14 are objected to. Claims 8, 12, 13 and 17 are cancelled. Allowable claim 13 and all intervening claims have been incorporated into the base claim.

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. Should further questions arise concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's agent at the number listed below. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account <u>50-0749</u>.

Respectfully submitted, Mitsubishi Electric Research Laboratories, Inc.

By

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